

DIVISION H – LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS, 2003

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH WIDE MATTERS

The conferees direct the legislative branch entities to establish a legislative branch chief administrative officers council that will meet regularly on administrative issues of concern to the legislative branch. Such a council is to be modeled after the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council. Wherever a chief administrative officer does not exist in a legislative branch entity, a senior-level employee should be designated to serve in this capacity. Through this council, representatives will be able to define, review and discuss policies, security issues, mail issues, personnel practices, procedures and systems for such areas as human resources, information technology, and general management. This will facilitate consistency in systems development wherever appropriate, sharing of “lessons learned,” and the elimination of duplicative efforts. The conferees direct the General Accounting Office to work with the agencies of the legislative branch to establish the council and the council and GAO must be prepared to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House during the annual budget hearing process beginning with fiscal year 2005.

The conferees recognize the provisions of H.R. 5121 and House Report 107-576 and any instructions and detail included in such report are to be adhered to, unless amended or restated herein.

Many items in both House and Senate Legislative Branch Appropriations bills are identical and are included in the conference agreement without change. The conferees have endorsed statements of policy contained in the House and Senate reports accompanying the appropriations bills, unless amended or restated herein. With respect to those items in the conference agreement that differ between House and Senate bills, the conferees have agreed to the following with the appropriate section numbers, punctuation, and other technical corrections:

TITLE I – LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS

Senate

Appropriates \$667,788,000 for Senate operations. Inasmuch as these items relate solely to the Senate, and in accord with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention, the managers on the part of the House, at

the request of the managers on the part of the Senate, have receded to the amendments of the Senate.

House of Representatives

Appropriates \$956,086,000 for House operations. Inasmuch as these items relate solely to the House, and in accord with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention, the managers on the part of the Senate, at the request of the managers on the part of the House, have receded to the amendments of the House.

~~The managers on the part of the House encourage the Chief~~

Administrative Officer (CAO) to contract with an organization that is very familiar with the House, the operations and activities of House offices, and the personnel that work in these offices, to assess the professional development needs of the House workforce. The CAO should report the findings to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on House Administration.

JOINT ITEMS

Joint Economic Committee

Appropriates \$3,658,000 for the Joint Economic Committee as proposed by the House and by the Senate.

Joint Committee on Taxation

Appropriates \$7,643,000 for the Joint Committee on Taxation instead of \$7,323,000 as proposed by the House and the Senate.

Office of the Attending Physician

Appropriates \$3,000,000 for the Office of the Attending Physician as proposed by the House and by the Senate, of which \$300,000 shall be available until expended. This amount includes \$1,414,000 for reimbursement to the Department of Navy for expenses incurred as proposed by the House and by the Senate.

Capitol Guide Service and Special Services Office

Appropriates \$3,035,000 for the Capitol Guide Service and Special Services Office as proposed by the House and by the Senate.

Statement of Appropriations

Appropriates \$30,000 for Statement of Appropriations as proposed by the House and by the Senate.

CAPITOL POLICE

Salaries

Appropriates \$175,675,000 for salaries of officers, members, and employees of the Capitol Police. The conferees direct the Chief of the Capitol Police make retroactive to the first full pay period in October 2002 any comparability adjustment in pay.

~~The conferees direct that not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, the Capitol Police Board report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, and the Committee on House Administration on a proposed new pay structure, the budgetary impact of the proposed structure, and a detailed plan of how the proposed structure would be implemented which is consistent with the requirements of P.L. 105-55.~~

The FY 2001 Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, as amended (P.L. 106-346), required the General Accounting Office (GAO) to participate in the selection of a Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the

United States Capitol Police (USCP) and monitor the implementation of management improvements in budgeting, financial management, information technology, and human resources. The law required GAO to provide quarterly reports to the Chief of the Capitol Police, Capitol Police Board, and congressional appropriations and oversight committees having jurisdiction over the Capitol Police through September 30, 2002 on USCP's implementation efforts. Much progress has been made by the CAO to improve overall administrative operations of the Capitol Police. However, there are still some significant concerns on the part of the conferees about the need for the USCP to update their strategic plan to reflect post-

September 11, 2001 changes, and to implement an effective management strategy in the agency, particularly with respect to human resources.

Therefore, the conferees direct the GAO to continue monitoring all CAO operations of the USCP, with special attention to the strategic planning process and human resources management. GAO is directed to provide to the Capitol Police and congressional committees noted above semi-annual reports on the CAO's continued implementation of management improvements in budgeting, financial management, information technology, developing and implementing an effective overall strategic planning process

and human resource management strategy. The conferees direct that these reports continue through FY 2006.

In the wake of September 11, 2001, security concerns led to the posting of signs prohibiting bicyclists on the Capitol grounds. The Capitol grounds have been a link to Capitol Hill, the National Mall and downtown for years and bicycling is a form of transportation that helps alleviate traffic congestion, promotes physical activity, and does not contribute to air pollution. The conferees urge the Capitol Police and the Architect of the Capitol to work with the District Department of Transportation to create safe routes for bicyclists in and/or around the Capitol grounds in a manner that encourages bicycling without sacrificing security concerns. The upcoming year is a critical time for this planning to take place as the construction of the Capitol Visitors Center progresses and the City of Washington updates its Bike Master Plan. The Capitol Police and the Architect of the Capitol should report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House on a plan of action to coordinate with the District Department of Transportation on addressing this issue.

General Expenses

Appropriates \$28,100,000, of which \$1,400,000 shall remain available until expended for general expenses of the Capitol Police.

Administrative Provisions

The conferees have included an administrative provision allowing for the transfer of funds upon the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate. In addition, the conferees have included provisions that authorize the Capitol Police to: procure severable services; dispose of surplus or obsolete property; hire without regard to age; establish an educational assistance program; expand the current training program; centralize their disbursing authority; annualize premium pay limits; provide overtime compensation to Lieutenants and above; appoint special officers and establish specialty assignment pay. In addition, the conferees have included technical corrections to existing recruitment and relocation incentives, and for compensation of the Chief of Police, the Assistant Chief of Police, and the Chief Administrative Officer. Language is included which redefines the mission and the composition of the Capitol Police Board; provides for the merger of the Capitol Police with the Library of Congress Police; and, clarifies the authority of the Capitol Police to police the Botanic Garden. Language is also included which permits the Capitol Police to

appoint employees at a rate of pay at or above step one of the pay grade in which the employee is appointed. In addition, language has been included which directs the regulations and approvals of various provisions be completed within sixty days of enactment of this Act. The conferees have also directed the development of a long-term strategic plan.

Office of Compliance

Appropriates \$2,059,000 for the Office of Compliance as proposed by the House and the Senate. Authority has been provided for the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance to dispose of surplus or obsolete property.

The Office of Compliance was established as an independent office within the Legislative Branch to implement and enforce the provisions of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995. The principal functions of the Office include enforcing 11 civil rights, labor, and workplace laws within the Legislative Branch, which entails administering a procedure to resolve disputes and to provide remedies if violations are found; carrying out an education program for congressional Members, employing entities of the Legislative Branch, and employees with regard to the provision of the laws

applied to the Legislative Branch; and compiling and publishing statistics on the use of Office by covered employees.

Federal standards of internal and management controls and prevailing best practices for governing call for periodically reviewing an organization's structure, functions (i.e., mission and roles), and processes to (1) determine whether they are functioning well, and ensure that they reflect changes in circumstances and (2) ensure sound governance, oversight, and accountability. Since its creation, no comprehensive review of the Office of Compliance and its operations has been conducted. Thus, the conferees direct the General Accounting Office to assess the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the Office of Compliance in fulfilling its responsibilities and

role in achieving the overall intent and purposes of the Congressional Accountability Act. The review should include examining the effectiveness and efficiency of the Office's administration and enforcement of the Act and the administrative and judicial dispute-resolution procedures for considering alleged violations of the laws; the operations of the Board of Directors; and the assistance and services provided by the Office to employing offices of the Legislative Branch in fulfilling their responsibilities under the Act. The GAO should make recommendations, as appropriate, to enhance the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the Office of Compliance to achieve the

purposes of the Act. The GAO should report its findings to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate by March 31, 2003.

Congressional Budget Office

Appropriates \$32,101,000 for salaries and expenses of the Congressional Budget Office as proposed by the Senate instead of \$32,390,000 as proposed by the House.

Administrative Provisions

Language has been included authorizing employees of the CBO to engage in details or other temporary assignments to other government agencies for study and work experience. ~~In addition, a provision has been~~
included regarding the purchases and contracts made by the Congressional Budget Office.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

General Administration

Appropriates \$59,343,000 for Architect of the Capitol, general administration. Of the amount appropriated \$450,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2007.

The conferees expect the Architect of the Capitol to continue to observe closely limitations on full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. It is noted, however, that funding was provided for various projects with no commensurate increase in the FTE ceiling. Accordingly, the conferees provide relief from the fiscal year 2003 FTE ceiling for delivery of those projects under the condition that the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate be notified prior to the increase in the FTE ceiling.

The conferees have provided a new budget line item under various accounts for Design, Study and Condition Assessment of projects. The Architect of the Capitol is to notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate 21 days prior to moving forward with these projects.

The Architect of the Capitol is to report semi-annually to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the expenditure of funds for attendance at meetings and conventions.

The conferees note the completion of the General Management Review (GMR) of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) conducted by the General Accounting Office (GAO) and commend the Architect for his

willingness to effect recommended changes in the AOC's management policies and practices. The conferees believe that the continued involvement of the GAO throughout the Architect's development and implementation of a plan that effects GMR recommendations will be of considerable value. Therefore, the conferees direct the GAO to monitor the Architect on the development and implementation of the required plan. In addition, the GAO is to monitor the establishment of various positions to implement the plan. The conferees also direct the GAO to evaluate implementation efforts as well as the results of management changes, including the timely accomplishment of the implementation plan milestones, and report the results of that evaluation semi-annually to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration. These reports should continue until all changes in the plan have been implemented.

Section 133 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2002 (P.L.107-68) generally prohibits the Architect of the Capitol from employing temporary workers for long periods without providing them eligibility for employee benefits. During the implementation of Section 133, questions arose concerning its application to temporary workers covered by collective bargaining agreements entered into by the Architect providing eligibility for

private-sector employee benefits in lieu of federal benefits. The conferees direct the Architect to work with the General Accounting Office to determine the proper manner of completing the implementation of Section 133 and to consult with the Internal Revenue Service concerning the proper tax treatment of benefits and contributions. The Architect is directed to report to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration on the results of his efforts by May 31, 2003.

With respect to the object class and projects, the conferees have agreed to the following:

Operating Budget:	\$55,275,000
Capital Projects:	
Implementation of Safety Programs	450,000
Security Project Support for AOC	125,000
Financial Management System (FMS)	1,627,000
Implementation of AOCNET	500,000
Computer-Aided Facility Management (CAFM)	1,366,000
Total, General Administration	\$59,343,000

Capitol Building

Appropriates \$32,094,000 for maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol, by the Architect of the Capitol. Of the amount appropriated \$19,065,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2007.

With respect to object class and project, the conferees have agreed to the following:

Operating Budget	\$10,886,000
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Capital Projects:

ADA Requirements	75,000
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Replacement of Minton Tile	200,000
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Roofing Repair, around House and Senate Chambers	160,000
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Elevator/Escalator Modernization Program	500,000
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Door Refinishing/Restoration	289,000
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Chandelier Restoration & Crystal Globe Replacement	319,000
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Conservation of Wall Paintings	300,000
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Replace High Voltage SWGR & Cables	2,000,000
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Upgrade Air Conditioning, East Front Capitol	12,000,000
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Computer, Telecom & Electrical Support	300,000
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Design, Study and Condition Assessment	5,065,000
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Total, Capitol Building	\$32,094,000
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Capitol Grounds

Appropriates \$8,356,000 for the care and improvements of the grounds surrounding the Capitol, House and Senate office buildings, and the Capitol Power plant, by the Architect of the Capitol. Of the amount appropriated \$1,780,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2007.

With respect to object class and projects, the conferees have agreed to the following:

Operating Budget	\$6,041,000
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Capital Projects:

Replace Truck	80,000
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Wayfinding and ADA Compliant Signage	430,000
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Maintenance of Outdoor Sculpture, Garfield & Peace	25,000
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Power Requirements	1,200,000
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Study, Design, and Condition Assessment	580,000
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Total, Capitol Grounds

\$8,356,000

Senate Office Buildings

Appropriates \$64,871,000 for the maintenance, care, and operation of the Senate office buildings to the Architect of the Capitol, of which \$21,600,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2007. Inasmuch as this item relates solely to the Senate, and in accord with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention, the managers on the part of the House, at the request of the managers on the part of the Senate, have receded to the Senate.

With respect to object class and projects, the Senate conferees have agreed to the following:

Operating Budget

\$43,163,000

Capital Projects:

Kitchen Exhaust and Kitchen Redesign, Webster Hall	108,000
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Renovate Restrooms (ADA)	2,100,000
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Bus Ducts and Switchgear Replacement	1,950,000
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Repair Waterproofing under RSOB's South Steps	1,800,000
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Modernize Elevators	3,060,000
Mechanical Renovations, DSOB	940,000
Minor Construction	10,000,000
Design, Study and Condition Assessment	1,750,000
 Total, Senate Office Buildings	 \$64,871,000

House Office Buildings

Appropriates \$60,960,000 for the maintenance, care, and operation of the House office buildings to the Architect of the Capitol, of which \$25,610,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2007. Inasmuch as this item relates solely to the House, and in accord with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention, the managers on the part of the Senate, at the request of the managers on the part of the House, have receded to the House.

With respect to object class and projects, the House conferees have agreed to the following:

Operating Budget	\$32,650,000
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Capital Projects:

Egress Door Improvements	200,000
Sound Improvements, Committee Hearing Rooms	280,000
Elevator Modernization Program	1,460,000
Minor Construction	9,000,000
Upgrade Fire Alarm, E&W House Garages	880,000
Replace FP Low Voltage Switchgears, FHOB	750,000
Major Elevator Equipment Improvements, HOB	120,000
Design, Study and Condition Assessment	10,020,000
Wayfinding Signage	1,100,000
House Office Building Master Plan	1,000,000
Longworth Emergency Generator Project	3,500,000

Total, House Office Buildings	\$60,960,000
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Capitol Power Plant

In addition to the \$4,400,000 made available from receipts credited as reimbursements to this appropriation, appropriates \$102,286,000 to the

Architect of the Capitol for maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol power plant. Of this amount, \$61,736,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2007.

With respect to object class and projects the conferees have agreed to the following:

Operating Budget	\$39,967,000
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Capital Projects:

Implement Emergency Shoring and Repairs to Tunnels	100,000
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Repair South Capitol Street Steam Line	10,289,000
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Repair Constitution Avenue Tunnel	8,500,000
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West Refrigeration Plant Expansion	41,000,000
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Install Dual Low Nox Burners, Boilers 6 & 7	400,000
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Procure Emergency Generator	1,500,000
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Update CAD Drawings	80,000
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Study, Design and Condition Assessment	450,000
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Total, Capitol Power Plant	\$102,286,000
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Library Buildings and Grounds

Appropriates \$37,521,000 for structural and mechanical care, Library buildings and grounds. Of this amount, \$18,014,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2007 and \$5,500,000 shall remain available until expended.

With respect to object class and projects the conferees have agreed to the following:

Operating Budget:	\$11,754,000
Capitol Projects:	
Replace Partition Supports, JMMB	300,000
Additional Sprinklers, JMMB	1,383,000
Upgrade Emergency Generators, JAB & TJB	300,000
Repair Roof under East Parking Lot, TJB	2,180,000
Audio Visual Conservation Center	5,500,000
Modernize 4 Elevators	980,000
Design & Construction of Book Storage	
Module 2, Ft. Meade	9,566,000
HVAC NW Curtain, TJB	453,000
Study, Design & Conditions Assessment	2,905,000
Replace Compact Stack Safety, JMMB	300,000

Repair Life Safety Deficiencies	1,000,000
ADA Requirements, LB&G	100,000
Replace Sidewalks, TJB & JAB	100,000
Restore Decorative Painting, TJB & JAB	100,000
LOC Room & Partition Modifications	500,000
Preservations Environmental Monitoring	100,000
Total, Library Buildings and Grounds	\$37,521,000

Capitol Police Buildings and Grounds

Appropriates \$23,900,000 for the maintenance, care, and operations of Capitol Police Buildings and Grounds to the Architect of the Capitol, of which \$23,500,000 shall remain available until September 20, 2007.

The conferees direct the Architect of the Capitol to provide a fiscal year 2003 obligation plan, by April 30, 2003, to include personnel compensation and associated FTEs for Capitol Police Buildings and Grounds.

The conferees direct that the General Accounting Office, working with the United States Capitol Police and the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, prepare a report regarding the feasibility of transferring jurisdiction

of the United States Capitol Police Buildings and Grounds to the Capitol Police, and that the study be provided to the Committees on Appropriations by May 15, 2003.

With respect to object class and projects the conferees have agreed to the following:

Operating Budget	\$ 400,000
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Capital Projects:

Design Offsite Delivery/Screening Center, USCP	2,000,000
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Offsite Delivery/Screening Center, USCP	5,000,000
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Design, Tactical Training, Cheltenham, MD	1,500,000
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Other Facility Improvements	15,000,000
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Total, Capitol Police Buildings and Grounds	\$23,900,000
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Botanic Garden

Appropriates \$6,103,000 for salaries and expenses, Botanic Garden,
of which \$120,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2007.

With respect to object class and projects the conferees have agreed to
the following;

Operating Budget	\$4,646,000
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Capital Projects:

Fire Alarm System Upgrades, DC Village	25,000
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Shade Curtain Replacement	22,000
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CAFM Data Capture – USBG	50,000
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Interpretative Illustrations – Conservatory Garden Court	225,000
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West Gallery Fabric, Audio Tour and Banners	652,000
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Vehicle Replacement	43,000
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Book on History of Botanic Gardens	20,000
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Partnerships	300,000
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Study, Design and Condition Assessment	120,000
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Total, Botanic Garden	\$6,103,000
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Administrative Provisions

The conference agreement includes administrative provisions related to small purchase contracting authority; multi-year contract authority; establishment of a position of the Deputy Architect of the Capitol; delegation of authority by the Architect; compensation of the Assistant Architect of the Capitol; allocation of responsibility for Library buildings and grounds, and a technical correction.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Salaries and Expenses

Provides \$358,474,000 for salaries and expenses, Library of Congress, and authorizes 2,841 full time equivalents.

With respect to program/project increases the conferees have agreed to the following:

Mandatory Pay and Benefits	\$10,747,000
Price Level Increases	2,163,000
Digital Futures	17,200,000
Central Financial Management System	4,250,000

Law Library GLIN Project	2,903,000
Culpeper Shelving	1,000,000
Collections Relocation	1,439,000
Arrearage Reduction	896,000
Mass Deacidification	895,000
Lewis and Clark Exhibition	989,000
Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial	500,000
Veterans History Project	476,000
Safety Services	308,000
Transfer of the Furniture and Furnishings Appropriation	6,554,000

Copyright Office

Salaries and Expenses

Provides \$9,714,000, including \$29,512,000 made available from receipts, for salaries and expenses, Copyright Office. The level provided supports 530 full time equivalents.

Congressional Research Service

Salaries and Expenses

Appropriates \$86,952,000 for salaries and expenses, Congressional Research Service. The level provided supports 742 full time equivalents.

Books for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Salaries and Expenses

Appropriates \$50,963,000 for salaries and expenses, books for the blind and physically handicapped. The level provided supports 128 full-time equivalents. The conference agreement provides a one-time appropriation of \$1 million dollars to defray telecommunications costs for the National Federation of the Blind "NEWSLINE," audio daily newspaper service. The conferees support continued use of this computerized telecommunications technology as part of the Library's conversion to digital media and direct the Librarian to seek cost advantages that may result from combining distribution of audio editions of magazines with newspapers using this technology.

Administrative Provisions

The conference agreement includes several routine administrative provisions and amendments related to Library programs.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Congressional Printing and Binding

(Including Transfer of Funds)

Appropriates \$90,143,000 for Congressional Printing and Binding as proposed by the House and by the Senate.

Office of Superintendent of Documents

Salaries and Expenses

(Including Transfer of Funds)

Appropriates \$29,661,000 for salaries and expenses, Office of Superintendent of Documents as proposed by the House and the Senate.

GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

Salaries and Expenses

Appropriates \$451,134,000 for salaries and expenses, General Accounting Office.

PAYMENT TO THE OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER

TRUST FUND

Appropriates \$13,000,000 to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund for financing activities of the Open World Leadership Center. The conferees want it clearly understood that the renaming of the trust fund in no way provides for the creation of a new trust fund within the Department of the Treasury.

Administrative Provision

The conferees have included an administrative provision, which amends Section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (P.L. 106-554) renaming the former "Center for Russian Leadership Development" to the "Open World Leadership Center." This name change reflects the expansion of the Center's program to eligible foreign states other than the Russian Federation. The conferees direct that prior to implementation of the FY 2003 program, an obligation plan be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House reflecting the funding allocation and program objectives for existing and new program elements.

The conferees have also included, under Division P, language and funding regarding the U.S. - China Economic and Security Review Commission.

TITLE II - GENERAL PROVISIONS

In Title II, General Provisions, section numbers have been changed to conform to the conference agreement, provisions related to the John C. Stennis Center and the Congressional Award Act have been included, a provision related to electronic W-2's has been included, and a limitation regarding the transfer of funds has also been included.

CONFERENCE TOTAL - WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 2003 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 2002 amount, the 2003 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 2003 follows:

[In thousands of dollars]

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2002	\$3,252,423
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2003	3,405,108

House bill, fiscal year 2003	2,671,900
Senate bill, fiscal year 2003	3,359,830
Conference agreement, fiscal year 2003	3,358,350
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority,	
fiscal year 2002	+105,927
Budget estimates of new (obligational)	
authority, fiscal Year 2003	-46,758
House bill, fiscal year 2003	+686,450
Senate bill, fiscal year 2003	-1,480
